

For: AS 220
Release: Immediate
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GALLERY/COFFEE HOUSE OPENS

PROVIDENCE, R.I., July 19 -- Providence has seen its share of galleries come and go and a few coffee houses as well. But never has the city seen the two combined to create a unique forum for the visual and performing arts.

Bert Crenca and Scott Seabolt, both local artists, have combined their energy and passion for the arts to establish a gallery and coffee house, AS 220.

Located on the third floor of the Ocean State Performing Arts Center on Weybosset St. in Providence, AS 220 will offer studio art classes in painting and drawing, and an unjuried gallery open to all artists. On every Friday and Saturday AS 220 transforms into a coffee house - a public forum for new ideas in music, poetry, theater and any other art form the space can accommodate.

The coffee house will open on Friday and Saturday, August 2 and 3, at 8 p.m. with a performance by New & Improved, an original rock band. On Saturday, August 3, Paul Bettencourt, acoustic guitarist, will also perform. Donations at the door are \$1.

AS 220's commitment is to generate and enhance communication among artists and the Rhode Island community. Any artist interested in exhibiting or performing at AS 220 should contact Bert Crenca, 231-7275 or Scott Seabolt, 272-7555.

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